United Nations A/C.3/64/L.1

General Assembly

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Sixty-fourth session
Third Committee

Organization of the work of the Third Committee

Note by the Secretariat

Allocation of items

1. The agenda items allocated by the General Assembly to the Third Committee will be issued in document A/C.3/64/1. Background information on those items may be found in the annotations to the agenda (see A/64/100 and Add.1).

Programme of work

2. The draft programme of work (see annex) has been prepared bearing in mind paragraph (b) of rule 99 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, Assembly decision 63/537 on the programme of work of the Third Committee for the sixty-fourth session, the provisional agenda of the sixty-fourth session (A/64/150), relevant resolutions and decisions adopted by the Assembly on the rationalization of its work and that of the Third Committee, the availability of documentation and past experience in the utilization of conference services.

Question time and interactive dialogues and debates

3. In accordance with the established practice of the Committee and pursuant to paragraphs 3 (c) and (d) of the annex to General Assembly resolution 58/316, immediately following the introduction of reports by executive heads and senior members of the Secretariat at the beginning of each debate, interactive debates and "question time" will be held with heads of departments and offices, representatives of the Secretary-General, special rapporteurs and other special mechanisms as part of the formal proceedings of the Committee. Delegations are invited to participate actively in these dialogues with questions and unscripted comments. The general discussion under each agenda item or cluster of agenda items is to follow the "question time" with senior officials of the United Nations.

Statements

4. The list of speakers for the general discussion on agenda items allocated to the Third Committee will be opened on Monday, 28 September 2009.

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5. In accordance with the established practice of the Committee, statements made during the general discussion under each agenda item or cluster of agenda items will be limited to 7 minutes, and to 15 minutes for statements made on behalf of a group of delegations.

6. Under item 71 of the provisional agenda, "Promotion and protection of human rights", delegations may make one statement under sub-item (a) and one statement under sub-item (d), which are to be discussed sequentially. Under sub-items (b) and (c), which are to be considered jointly, delegations may make two separate statements (one under sub-item (b) and one under sub-item (c)).

7. Under items 69, "Elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance" and 70, "Right of peoples to self-determination", which are to be discussed jointly, delegations may also make two separate statements.

8. In accordance with previous decisions of the General Assembly, delegations should exercise their right of reply at the end of the day whenever two meetings have been scheduled for the consideration of the relevant agenda item on that day, or at the conclusion of the consideration of the item, if that is sooner. The first statement should be limited to 5 minutes and the second, if any, to 3 minutes.

List of documents

9. Attention is drawn to the addendum to the present note (to be issued as A/C.3/64/L.1/Add.1), which will list the documentation submitted under each of the agenda items expected to be allocated to the Third Committee.

Conference facilities and meetings arrangements

10. Unless otherwise specified, official meetings of the Committee will be held from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 6 p.m. The General Assembly has stressed that a punctual start of meetings is critical to the efficient utilization of services allocated to the intergovernmental bodies of the United Nations. In accordance with past practice, it is proposed that rule 108 of the Committee's rules of procedure be waived with respect to the quorum to declare a meeting open.

Report of the Economic and Social Council

11. In paragraph 4 (c) of the annex to General Assembly resolution 58/316, the Assembly decided that the item entitled "Report of the Economic and Social Council" should be considered in its entirety in plenary meeting. Subsequently it was clarified that, in implementing that decision, the relevant parts of chapter I of the report of the Economic and Social Council that relate to agenda items allocated to the Main Committees would be considered by the Committee concerned (see A/59/250/Add.1 and A/C.3/59/1/Add.2).

Report of the Human Rights Council

12. Bearing in mind rule 97 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, should the Assembly decide to allocate item 66 of its provisional agenda, "Report of the Human Rights Council", to the Third Committee, the Committee would consider the item on 29 October.

Conclusion of the work of the Committee

13. Bearing in mind the number of meetings allocated to the Third Committee, a target date of 24 November has been set for the conclusion of its work. The Committee will, however, endeavour to conclude its work earlier, if possible.

Annex

Draft programme of work of the Third Committee

Date/time	*Item/programme*[a]	
Week of 5-9 October		
Monday, 5 October		
10 a.m.		Election of officers
		Organizational matters
	Item 63	Introductory statements, dialogue with senior Secretariat officials an general discussion of:
		Social development
		(a) Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly
		(b) Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family
		(c) Follow-up to the International Year of Older Persons: Second World Assembly on Ageing
1 p.m.		Closure of the list of speakers on item 63
3 p.m.	**Item 63**	General discussion (*continued*)
Tuesday, 6 October		
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	**Item 63**	General discussion (*continued*)
Wednesday, 7 October		
10 a.m.	**Item 63**	General discussion (*concluded*)
1 p.m.		Deadline for submission of proposals on item 63
Thursday, 8 October		
10 a.m.		Introductory statements, dialogue with senior Secretariat officials an general discussion of:
	Item 104	**Crime prevention and criminal justice**
	Item 105	**International drug control**
1 p.m.		Closure of the list of speakers on items 104 and 105
3 p.m.	**Items 104 and 105**	General discussion (*continued*)

Date/time	*Item/programme*[a]	
Friday, 9 October		
10 a.m.	**Items 104 and 105**	General discussion (*concluded*)
1 p.m.		Deadline for submission of proposals on items 104 and 105
Week of 12-16 October		
Monday, 12 October		
10 a.m.		Introductory statements, dialogue with senior Secretariat officials and general discussion of:
	Item 64	**Advancement of women** **(a) Advancement of women** **(b) Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women and of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly**
1 p.m.		Closure of the list of speakers on item 64
3 p.m.	**Item 64**	General discussion (*continued*)
Tuesday, 13 October		
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	**Item 64**	General discussion (*continued*)
Wednesday, 14 October		
10 a.m.	**Item 64**	General discussion (*concluded*)
1 p.m.		Deadline for submission of proposals on item 64
3 p.m.		Introductory statements, dialogue with senior Secretariat officials and general discussion of:
	Item 67	**Promotion and protection of the rights of children** **(a) Promotion and protection of the rights of children** **(b) Follow-up to the outcome of the special session on children**
6 p.m.		Closure of the list of speakers on item 67
Thursday, 15 October		
10 a.m.	**Item 67**	General discussion (*continued*)
3 p.m.		Action on proposals, followed by:
	Item 67	General discussion (*continued*)

Date/time	*Item/programme*	
Friday, 16 October		
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	**Item 67**	General discussion (*continued and concluded*)
6 p.m.		Deadline for submission of proposals on item 67
Week of 19-23 October		
Monday, 19 October		
10 a.m.		Introductory statements, dialogue with senior Secretariat officials an general discussion of:
	Item 68	**Indigenous issues**
		(a) Indigenous issues
		(b) Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous People
1 p.m.		Closure of the list of speakers on item 68
3 p.m.	**Item 68**	General discussion (*concluded*)
6 p.m.		Deadline for submission of proposals on item 68
Tuesday, 20 October		
10 a.m.		Introductory statements, dialogue with senior Secretariat officials an general discussion of:
	Item 71	**Promotion and protection of human rights**
		(a) Implementation of human rights instruments
		Followed by introductory statements, dialogue with senior Secretaria officials and general discussion of:
	Item 71	**(d) Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action**
1 p.m.		Closure of list of speakers on item 71 (a) and (d)
3 p.m.	**Item 71 (d)**	General discussion (*concluded*)
6 p.m.		Deadline for submission of proposals on item 71 (a) and (d)
Wednesday, 21 October		
10 a.m.		Introductory statements, dialogue with senior Secretariat officials an general discussion of:

Date/time	*Item/programme*[a]	
	Item 71	**Promotion and protection of human rights**
		(b) Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms
		(c) Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives
1 p.m.		Closure of the list of speakers on item 71 (b) and (c)
3 p.m.	**Item 71 (b) and (c)**	Dialogue with special rapporteurs, special representatives and independent experts
Thursday, 22 October		
10 a.m.	**Item 71 (b) and (c)**	Dialogue with special rapporteurs, special representatives and independent experts
3 p.m.		Deadline for action on proposals under items 63, 64, 67, 104 and 105. Action on proposals, followed by dialogue with special rapporteurs, special representatives and independent experts
Friday, 23 October		
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	**Item 71 (b) and (c)**	Dialogue with special rapporteurs, special representatives and independent experts
Week of 26-30 October		
Monday, 26 October		
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	**Item 71 (b) and (c)**	Dialogue with special rapporteurs, special representatives and independent experts
Tuesday, 27 October		
10 a.m.	**Item 71 (b) and (c)**	Dialogue with special rapporteurs, special representatives and independent experts, followed by general discussion (*resumed*)
3 p.m.	**Item 71 (b) and (c)**	General discussion (*continued*)
Wednesday, 28 October		
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	**Item 71 (b) and (c)**	General discussion (*continued*)
Thursday, 29 October		
10 a.m.	**Item 71 (b) and (c)**	Action on proposals, followed by general discussion (*concluded*)
3 p.m.		General discussion of:
	Item 66	**Report of the Human Rights Council**

Date/time	*Item/programme*[a]	
6 p.m.		Deadline for submission of proposals on item 71 (b) and (c). Closure of the list of speakers on item 66
Week of 2-6 November		
Monday, 2 November		
10 a.m.		Introductory statements, dialogue with senior Secretariat officials and general discussion of:
	Item 69	**Elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance**
		(a) Elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance
		(b) Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action
	Item 70	**Right of peoples to self-determination**
1 p.m.		Closure of the list of speakers on items 69 and 70
3 p.m.	**Items 69 and 70**	General discussion (*continued*)
Tuesday, 3 November		
10 a.m.	**Items 69 and 70**	General discussion (*concluded*)
1 p.m.		Deadline for submission of proposals on items 69 and 70
3 p.m.		Introductory statements, dialogue with senior Secretariat officials and general discussion of:
	Item 43	**Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions**
6 p.m.		Closure of the list of speakers on item 43
Wednesday, 4 November		
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	**Item 43**	General discussion (*continued*)
6 p.m.		Deadline for submission of proposals on item 43
Thursday, 5 November		
10 a.m.		Action on proposals
Week of 9-13 November		
Thursday, 12 November		
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.		Action on proposals

Date/time	*Item/programme*[a]	
Week of 16-20 November		
Thursday, 19 November		
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.		Action on proposals
Friday, 20 November		
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.		Action on proposals
Week of 23-25 November		
Monday, 23 November		
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.		Action on proposals
Tuesday, 24 November		
10 a.m.	**Item 118**	**Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly**[b]
		Action on outstanding proposals
		Conclusion of the work of the Third Committee

[a] Item of the provisional agenda (A/64/150).

[b] The agenda item is to be allocated to the Third Committee for the sole purpose of considering and taking action on the tentative programme of work of the Committee for the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly.